

Judge M. Chase

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VOL. XXXIV.] WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY, 1858.

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Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society.

THE forty-first Annual Meeting of the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY WAS held in Trinity Church, Washington City, on the evening of the 19th ultimo, at 7½ o'clock, when, in the absence of the President, J. H. B. LATROSE, Esq., the Hon. ELISHA WHITFIELD, the senior Vice President present, took the chair. At the request of the chairman, prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. CUMMINS. Parts of the Annual Report were read by the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. R. R. GURLEY. Very interesting and impressive addresses were then made by the Rev. PHILIP SLAUGHTER, D. D., of Virginia; Rev. T. J. BOWEN, who has resided several years as a missionary of the Southern Baptist Board of Missions, in Yonuba, near the Niger; and the Rev. JOHN SEAS, Special Agent of the American Colonization Society, who has recently returned from his arduous and successful labors for the establishment of an Interior Settlement in Liberia.

The first speaker was the Rev. PHILIP SLAUGHTER, who introduced his address by the following resolution:

Resolved, That in our judgment America in Africa is the solution of the problem of Africa in America.

Dr. SLAUGHTER commenced his remarks by saying that he was not ashamed to avow himself one of those who have conceived the highest ideal of the part which America is destined to play in that great drama of which this earth is the theatre, and in which nations are the actors, under the supervision of that "Divinity which shapes our ends, rough-hew them as we will." He said, emphatically, under the supervision of the Divinity which shapes our ends, because he believed that there is a God in history, and that in His wisdom He reserved this new world as the theatre of a higher social, political and religious development of humanity than was vouchsafed to the preceding ages; and as a centre of influences which are to radiate to the north and to the south, to the east and to the west, until they surround the world like its atmosphere.

I would not (the speaker continued) presumptuously interpret His ways; but I think I see His providence in the varied and important events which were grouped around the discovery of this continent, and which made that era stand out so prominently among the preceding ones.

It was something more than a curious coincidence that the revival of letters and of the arts, the discovery of printing, and of the polarity of the magnet, just preceded and the reformation of religion just succeeded the discovery of America.

The minds of meditative men, too, were expectant of a great change in the world's affairs, and of a new world as the scene of it. Irving tells us that the

philosophers placed it in the lost Atlantis. The poets beheld it in the Islands of the Blessed, and the stern spirit of Seneca discerned a firer abode of humanity in the western ocean, in contemplation of which he uttered those remarkable words:

* * * "Venient annis
Sæcula seris quibus oceanus
Rerum vincula laxet et ingens
Pateat tellus, Typhusque novos
Detegat orbes," &c.

I cannot trace the steps which led Columbus to the discovery of America, without being convinced that that great man was moved by a higher inspiration than that of mere human genius. He seemed to see by faith this new world, as mariners sometimes see the land towards which they are steering, long ere they have reached it, indistinctly reflected upon the clouds. Again: I think I see that Providence in the process by which North America became the heritage of the Anglo-Saxons, of the English language, English law, English literature, and of the *English Bible*. I think, too, I see that Providence enabling our fathers to accomplish a revolution which has no parallel in the annals of the world, and to lay the foundations of governments which had no model on the face of the globe. The principle which lies at the root of this nation is Christianity. Not Christianity as she was fettered in the Old World, but Christianity loosed from her swathing bands, standing alone, in her own might, shining with her own light, "like some bird of heavenly plumage fair," about to expand her wings for a grander flight for the healing of the nations. For the first time in the history of the world all the great principles of civil and religious liberty—liberty of thought, liberty of faith, liberty of worship, liberty of speech, and liberty of the press—were enacted into the organic law of the land. It would seem that the soul of the great reformation had transmigrated into the American body politic. These were the principles that demanded a New World, a fulcrum upon which to move the Old World. And what a fulcrum!

Her vast plains and lofty mountains, teeming with materials adequate to furnish the food and feed the fires of all mankind; her mighty rivers, rolling in every direction to mingle with the world of waters which beat upon every shore. Such is America, stretching in an opposite direction to the Old World, through nearly all the climatic forms of the earth, "enthroned, queen-like, between the two great oceans," stretching forth one hand to the Pacific and the other to the Atlantic to welcome the poor and oppressed of every land. And they have heard and heeded the invitation. A great Englishman has said that the world has never witnessed an emigration like that which has taken place to America since the first dispersion of mankind. Hordes of emigrants are continually swarming off in crowds as resistless and unreturning as the travellers to eternity. All the historical races of the earth have come, and, like the disintegration of different soils, have blended into one nationality, making a richness and fertility of natural life such as was never seen before. In the language of the Rev. Dr. Moore, our people are made up of the best blood of the world, and this is the secret of the power and energy of this country. The United States doubles its population in less than twenty-five years, and more than doubles its resources. It will soon contain ten times as many inhabitants as were ever before animated by the spirit of a free people. They carry their altars with them into the wilderness, and the aborigines melt away before

them like snows under an April sun. The march of the Anglo-Saxons, said De Tocqueville, in his time, towards the West has all the solemnity of a Providential event; it is like a deluge of people rising unabatedly, and daily driven, as it were, by the hand of God. Since those words were written they have covered the shore of the Pacific, where they have met the Chinese, and in process of time will doubtless meet England in the East, as she comes up through Australia and India.

The same enterprise will in time doubtless carry our people through Central and spread them over South America, until our pulse shall circle through the continent from the Arctic to the Antarctic circle. And this result will take place without premeditation or effort, but in the natural course of events, from the superiority of North American over South American institutions, unless the latter shall conform themselves to our model and follow in our career. What imagination can conceive the extent of the influence which such a country would wield over the fates of the world? Already has American influence been powerfully felt abroad.

A great British author said long ago that every expansion of American influence was felt in Europe. The discovery of it overturned the systems of the ancients; the opening of its mines produced a revolution in commerce, and the declaration of its independence fired a train which overturned the monarchy of France, and which, I will add, has been exploding ever since. If this was true in our infancy, what must be the influence of our manhood, when our vessels traverse every sea, our citizens visit every land, and our missionaries preach in every language!

But there is one people who could not feel the force of our example. We could not go to them, because "Pestilence stood sentinel at the gates of Africa." Providence seemed to say to the wave of Anglo-Saxon population which is overflowing the earth, "hitherto shalt thou come, but no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed." But God's ways are not as our ways, nor his thoughts as our thoughts. If America could not go to Africa, Africa must come to America, and as they could not come spontaneously, having never heard of it, he permitted avaricious men, in the gratification of their own lusts, to compel them to come. This is a great mystery which I cannot expound. I can only see that what men mean for evil, as in the case of Joseph and his brethren, God often means for good. I do not justify the ways of man; I only justify the ways of God, out of evil educing good. I recognise facts even where I cannot explain the philosophy of them. The fact is, that nearly four millions of Africans are in America, and under the discipline to which they have been subjected, they have risen in the intellectual and moral order, until they have reached a stature far above their race in its native seats. But there stands Africa still, the "Niobe of Nations," in her voiceless woe—

"An empty urn within her withered hands,
Whose holy dust was scattered long ago."

How shall her countless millions be reached by Christian civilization? Upon this point allow me to read an extract from an English author, written long ago, and which seems to me to be one of the most curious and prophetic passages in our language. After surveying the moral condition of the world, he says:

"The least hopeful division of it is Central Africa, which has ever been cut off from any salutary influence from the other parts of the world, and has only had her misery heightened by her intercourse with more enlightened nations, but which yet is the country which nature had blessed with the most

abundant fertility; and, when the years of its sufferings are accomplished, we may expect it will be as prolific of good as it has been of what is noxious. There is no gleam of hope that arises from Africa itself; but out of the very depths of the calamities of Africa a prospect arises of ultimate relief. The slave trade, which heightened all the evils to which that country is subject, has brought a portion of the African race into close contact with men who are civilized. Europe and Africa, dissevered in their fates from each other, have met together in the colonies of America, and the rising prospects of that New World afford the means and the hopes for the civilization of Africa. While Europeans were prevented from settling in Africa, and the Africans had no means of acquiring the knowledge of Europe, an impassable barrier seemed raised between them; but now that both have been brought to inhabit a third country, it is comparatively easy to train those negroes in America who will be able to introduce into Africa the first rudiments of amelioration. Africa is the natural resort of the blacks that are emancipated. Placed in the New World in an ambiguous situation, between the freemen and the slaves, they are looked upon with an evil eye, as persons who have no ascertained position in society. But in Africa a new career awaits them, and they will be hailed by their kindred as the introducers of what is useful, and the instructors of nascent empires. *What is wanting is a landing-place:* some settlement to receive them on their first touching the coast, from which, in time, they would spread from one tribe to another, until they diffused themselves over the interior of the continent; and when that returning emigration has once begun it will every year widen, as one race of emigrants will smooth the passage for others, &c. The slave vessels which were carrying the first victims of European avarice across the Atlantic were unconsciously laying the train of the future greatness of Africa; and the liberated blacks, like the Israelites from Egypt, will return, carrying with them the ark of God," &c.

What is wanting is a landing-place. The American Colonization Society has supplied that want; it has not merely found a landing-place, but it has actually landed between eight and ten thousand of these Africans in their fatherland, who have organized a Government after our model. I will not presume to enter into details in the presence of the missionaries who are to follow me, and who will testify to what they have seen. I will merely say in general that our civil and religious institutions have been transferred into Central Africa. Printing presses, schools, and churches, and all the machinery of Christian civilization have been put in motion there. We have thus pushed the base of African missionary operations across the Atlantic, and made the centre of African missions coincide with the centre of African barbarism. We have extinguished the slave trade along five hundred miles of the coast, thus effecting with the dove of peace what the lion of Great Britain and the eagle of America, flying at the mast-heads of proud squadrons, failed in accomplishing. Considering the great distance at which we had to operate, and the rudeness of the materials with which we had to work, I can only ascribe the success that has attended our efforts to the Divine intervention and blessing. A great number of the wisest and best men of our country concur in the opinion that this enterprise will succeed, *at least to the extent of building up a home for Christianity in Africa*, from which influences will gradually go out which will result in the civilization of that benighted land.

It is interesting to trace the idea of African colonization from its first suggestion to its full development in the American Colonization Society. Dr. Hopkins, of Rhode Island, in 1772, conceived the thought of substituting free negroes for white missionaries to Africa. Mr. Jefferson, in 1776, prepared a plan of colonization as chairman of a committee of the Legislature of Virginia; but nothing definite was done, probably because, when the committee reported, Mr. Jefferson was in France. The General Assembly of Virginia in 1800,

1802, and 1804, passed resolutions upon the subject, and a correspondence ensued between the President of the United States (Mr. Jefferson) and Messrs. Monroe and Page, Governors of Virginia, as to the comparative advantages of our Southwestern frontier, of the West Indies, and of Africa, as a proposed site for the colony. Our difficulties with foreign powers arrested these interesting proceedings. Mr. Jefferson, however, continued to agitate the subject from his retirement at Monticello, saying, in 1811—

“I have long made up my mind that this is the best measure for drawing off this part of our population. Going from a country possessing all the useful arts, they might be the means of transplanting them to Africa, and would thus carry back to the country of their origin seeds of civilization which would render their sojourn here a blessing in the end to that country.”

In 1816 the General Assembly passed the following resolutions by a majority of 137, out of 146 votes in the House of Delegates, and with but one dissenting voice in the Senate:

“Whereas the General Assembly of Virginia has repeatedly sought to obtain an asylum beyond the limits of the United States for such persons of color as have been, or may be emancipated under the laws of this commonwealth, but have still found all their efforts frustrated, &c.:

“*Resolved*, That the Executive be requested to correspond with the President for the purpose of obtaining a territory on the coast of Africa, or some other place not within the United States, to serve as an asylum of such persons of color as are now free and desire the same, and for those who may be hereafter emancipated within this commonwealth,” &c.

In the response to this demand the American Colonization Society was formed at Washington, in January, 1817, by politicians and Christians from the North and the South. What but the overruling providence of God could have produced this conjuncture of circumstances and union of minds!

It was a happy coincidence that the year of the establishment of the Colonization Society was the year of the accession of James Monroe to the Presidency of the United States. We have seen Monroe's active co-operation while Governor of Virginia with Jefferson, then President of the United States, in stimulating and shaping those acts of the General Assembly of Virginia which led to the formation of the Colonization Society. We shall now see his agency in a higher sphere in executing those laws of Congress which were perhaps indispensable to the establishment of a colony itself. It was hardly possible for a private society to make a permanent plantation upon a distant and barbarous shore. And it was not likely that the Government of the United States should take the responsibility of such a measure, although Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Marshall, all concurred in the opinion of its expediency and constitutionality. But that Divine Providence, whose ways are not our ways, had, as it seems to me, laid far back in the legislation of Congress a train of causes whose effects made it the interest of the General Government to co-operate with the Colonization Society. The act of Congress prohibiting the foreign slave trade after 1808 contained a provision placing Africans recaptured by our navy at the disposition of any State within whose territory they might be landed. Under this provision the Legislature of some States sold a number of recaptured Africans. In 1819 two delegates from Virginia, Messrs. Mercer and Floyd, reported a bill repealing these provisions and committing all recaptured Africans to the custody of the marshals of the United States until they could be restored to their own country. It also authorized the President to appoint agents upon the coast of Africa to receive those Africans, and appro-

priated one hundred thousand dollars to carry its provisions into effect. The legislation of Congress having thus devolved upon the General Government a necessity for providing an asylum for the recaptured Africans, it became the interest of the Government to co-operate with the Society, whose designs were just ripe for execution. We cannot tell how it strikes others, but, for myself, I recognize with reverence in these proceedings what seem to me unmistakable indications of a Divine Providence presiding over and shaping the ends of individuals and of nations. It was in acknowledgement of Mr. Monroe's beneficent execution of *this* law of Congress that the capital of Liberia was called *Monrovia*. Whether the General or State Governments will hereafter support or repudiate a policy initiated by such eminent authorities is more than I can tell. But, whatever may be their views of expediency, our duty is clear. The grand epochs in the history of man have been signalized by higher motives than those which usually dictate human policies. God is in them, and all human beings and events shall ultimately move in the orbits and obey the laws which He prescribes. If this thing be of man, it will come to naught; but if it be of God, man cannot overthrow it. The real strength of this enterprise is in the Christian hearts that are beating behind it. The conversion of Central Africa to Christianity had long been an insoluble problem to the Christian Church. The Son of Righteousness in making His circuit of the earth had visited other lands, and even illumined the frontiers of Africa. But not a ray had penetrated the land of the black man. For two hundred years Christian missionaries had gone there with the heroic purpose of planting the ensigns of the Gospel within this entrenched camp of Satan. The result was a perfect failure, and the bones of a noble army of martyrs bleached the burning sands. To human view the land seemed doomed, but not to the eye of faith, which saw through these frowning providences Ethiopia stretching out her hands to God. At this critical moment the happy thought was suggested of colonizing Africa with free American Christianized negroes. The Colonization Society is a missionary society. The colonist and the missionary must stand or fall together. Missions and colonization, said our African bishop Payne, have ever been God's great schemes for spreading Christianity over the world. The Methodist Bishop, Scott, after visiting the churches in Liberia, calls the colonies the bright spots raying out light upon the surrounding darkness. Of the same import is the testimony of the Baptist and Presbyterian missionaries. Let us, then, with hand joined with hand and heart linked with heart, launch the Colonization Society as a missionary society. Cheered by the voices, and wafted by the prayers, of all Christendom, it will move on gloriously to its consummation. It has passed serenely through many a storm, and nothing can wreck it so long as we sail by the chart of our constitution, which limits our operations exclusively to the removal of free persons of color. To this principle we are solemnly pledged, and, as long as we adhere to it, our position is impregnable. The missionary argument is a brief one, and is as follows: the millions of Africa, however degraded, still belong to the human family for whom Christ died. It is our duty to send them the Gospel, and free Americanized negroes are the only missionaries that can long survive the burning sun so fatal to the white man. In the graphic and emphatic language of Governor Wise, of Virginia:

"The black missionary to black Africa, like to like. Who so fit to be the pioneer of civilization in Africa as the black man? Its light expires, has always gone out in the hand of the white man. I firmly believe that slavery on this

continent was intended by God to be the sun of the illumination of that land of night. Is there ought religiously wrong in making an idolatrous pagan sire work out the christianity of a son? If this be not so, why were Africans brought across the ocean, leaving our Indians unenslaved? Why, but to return civilization for slavery. Africa gave Virginia a savage and a slave, Virginia gives back to Africa, a citizen and a Christian. Send forth these your missionaries, with light and love, to the land of night, until that dry-nurse of lions shall become the nursery of civilization, and law, and order, and religion. The destiny of this people is towards Africa. My authority is God's providence against futile attempts of human Babel-builders upon earth. His servants had better be about their Master's work."

Let us, then, my Christian friends, take courage and go forward like brave men to our work. We shall not witness its consummation; but let us leave it as a legacy to our children, and they will transmit it to succeeding generations. God works not in a day or generation. A thousand years are with Him but as one day. Time is a necessary element in human progress. What is of long growth is of slow decay, and the inveterate evils of many ages cannot be eradicated within the hour-glass of one man's life. We Americans are impatient of results that are long in coming. Expresses and electric telegraphs are our types. Everything that is worthy of being done must be done with the rapidity of lightning and the energy of the earthquake. Time was, when, it was proposed to offer bounties to quicken immigration to our shores, but now the eyes of the oppressed are everywhere turning wistfully towards this land of promise, and there is an exodus from the Old World to the New. And it may be that by the time Liberia shall have acquired a capacity of safely receiving and assimilating large numbers of our free blacks, that the pressure upon them will have become so intense that a spontaneous movement of them will take place to Africa like that of the pauper population of Europe to our own shores. Nothing is wanting but unity among Christians, energised by a strong will to do the will of God, to change the face of the moral world. It is everywhere in a state of transition; and *voluntary associations of Christians*, like so many wheels in the mechanism of society, are rapidly bringing the earth under the influence of more genial skies. Millions are ready to join in the sublime prayer of Milton—

"Come thou that hast the seven stars in thy right hand; appoint thy chosen priests to minister before thee. Thou hast sent out the spirit of prayer into all the earth, and stirred up their vows, as the sound of many waters about thy throne. Surely every one can say that thou hast visited this land. O perfect and accomplish thy glorious work! Men may leave their work unfinished, but thou art a God; thy nature is perfection. The times and the seasons pass along under thy feet; they come and go at thy bidding. And since thou did'st dignify our fathers' days with many revelations above all the preceding ages, so thou can'st vouchsafe to us a larger portion of thy spirit, as thou pleasest. For who shall prejudice thy all-governing will? And, since the power of thy grace is not passed away, as fond and faithless men imagine, but thy kingdom is now at hand, and thou standing at the door, come forth out of thy royal chambers, thou Prince of all the kings of the earth! Put on the visible robes of thy imperial majesty! Take up that unlimited sceptre which thy Almighty Father has bequeathed thee; for the voice of thy bride calls thee, and all nature signs to be renewed."

The conversion of Africa will perhaps be the last act in the great drama of the world's redemption. Then may we hope that the dove of peace may descend upon the earth, with the millennial olive-branch in his mouth, and waving his radiant wings over a redeemed world that shall then keep jubilee a thousand years.

The Rev. Mr. BOWEN then spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:—It is not through mere formality that I express sincere pleasure in this opportunity of raising my voice in behalf of African Colonization. A nobler cause has never engaged the hearts and the hands of men. Commerce is a great instrumentality for the improvement of the human race; the arts and sciences, which we are transferring to Africa, are still greater; Christian missions are more important than all other instrumentalities; but all of these, commerce, science, art and Christianity, converge and combine in the present work of colonizing Africa.

The gentleman who has just spoken has shown how the colonization movement has been originated and conducted by an inscrutable and inflexible, yet gracious Providence. That series of Providential events is coeval with the human race. It began to be unfolded in Eden. Amid all changes and reverses it has ever moved steadily onward, embracing first the ruling races, and extending now, at last, to Africa, tending always to the same point, the conversion and the civilization of the whole world. Providence has given us the Christian men of the African race to colonize Africa. Providence himself has laid the foundation of the work, and now the watchword is *onward*.

The colonization work, by whomsoever performed, is one: Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Cape Coast Castle, all the colonies are one, and the results are one. Illustrating my positions by what I have seen myself in Africa, I propose to point out very briefly some of these results:—Colonization is giving homes to the homeless; it is civilizing a race; it is developing a commerce which is destined to find its way to every part of the world; it is preparing the way for the conversion of a continent to Christ; and is laying the foundation of a great English-speaking nation in Africa.

Colonization is giving homes to the homeless. The barbarous negro of Africa lives there, but his squalid hut, darkened by superstition and defiled by crime, is not a home. The civilized free black of America has no home, in the proper sense of the term, on this continent. The mark of alienism is graven on his brow. He is not a political or social equal, and never can be. The decree of Providence is written on the skin and the character of the two races, that the Negro and the Anglo-Saxon shall remain distinct, as our common Father was pleased to create us. Yet "He has fashioned our hearts alike," thus decreeing that, distinct as we are, we shall nevertheless be united in one brotherhood of humanity, civilization, and religion.

I have seen with joy the civilized and Christian homes, which Colonization has given to the African in the land of his fathers. Many of our people in Liberia, and some natives of the soil—many descended from our own people long since colonized in Sierra Leone, and many natives of Sudan in the same colony—are the happy owners of comfortable, Christian homes. I have seen the same blessed results of Colonization at Bathurst on the Gambia, at El Mina, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, and other places. Their houses are well-constructed, by their own industry, of wood, of bricks, and of stone. They are furnished with the appliances of civilized life, and the Bible is there on their tables. There are thousands of these people, whom Colonization has thus blessed within a few years. The homes of some are not only comfortable, but elegant, and elegantly furnished. I was pleased to see the standard books of England and America in these houses, and in some of humbler pretensions. Such are the homes now arising in Africa. This is a language which all can understand.

If a hundred such homes have been erected within the past twenty years, a hundred thousand may follow.

Colonization is *civilizing the African race*. There are American blacks in Liberia, and even natives of Sudan in Sierra Leone, who can read Latin and Greek, and sometimes Hebrew; and their attainments in other branches of knowledge are far from being contemptible. I have lived among these men, I have talked with them, and read with them. I have always been astonished at what I saw and heard; but the facts are there, and such examples of African improvement are multiplying from year to year. What shall be the end of these things? Many persons sincerely believe that we are laboring in vain for the improvement of Africa; but the work moves onward, and incredulity must change to faith before many generations shall pass away.

Colonization is *developing a vast and rich commerce*. No one doubts that an extensive and fertile tropical country like Africa must be rich in natural resources. To say nothing of the numerous tropical productions, which are now, or may be, common to Africa and India, the palm-oil trade alone, like the cotton and tobacco trade of the Southern States, is capable of becoming a source of inexhaustible wealth. The vast fields or prairies of the interior may furnish commerce with immense quantities of hides. The gold fields of western Sudan extend for a distance of five hundred miles from north to south. If we draw the line to the northwest from the limit of the mining district in the southeast of Ashantee, the distance is not less than a thousand English miles. Captain Jobson, the only white man who has ever dug in these mines, returned after a few days labor with twelve pounds of gold.* But all these great and varied resources can never be developed and given to the commerce of the world except by means of civilization, which now at last is taking firm root in our African colonies.

To prepare the way for civilization and commerce, Colonization is banishing the slave trade from Africa. Liberia, more powerful than fleets, even in her infancy, has eradicated this cruel and impolitic traffic from more than five hundred miles of the coast. The same result has followed wherever a little colony has been planted. And it is astonishing to see how quickly the disappearance of the slave trade is followed by an active traffic in the productions of the soil. This is the true reason why the exports of western Africa have recently run up to at least thirty millions of dollars per annum.

I have just remarked that the slave trade is cruel. The middle passage, of which we have heard so much, is but a small portion of the horrors attendant on that traffic. In one journey of sixty miles, I counted no less than eighteen towns, which had been reduced to utter desolation by the cruel wars, which furnish cargoes for the slave ships. Forty years ago, the Egbá Kingdom contained more than a hundred towns, some of which were six or eight miles in circuit. In 1850, but one of these towns was remaining. All the rest had been swept away as a crop for the slave trade. Such facts would be incredible were they not attested by the evidence of all the missionaries, merchants and travelers who have visited that unhappy country. I suppose that for every slave landed in the American markets about three persons are cut off in the wars, and the famines which follow, and during the middle passage from coast to coast. The present system of apprenticeship affords a safer passage to America, but the apprentices are collected by the same system of destructive

* See Murray's Africa.

wars, which have already depopulated some of the finest districts of Africa. No sooner was it known that apprentices would be bought, than the chiefs in different places began to make war on their weaker neighbors. My last advices from Africa told of famishing sieges and bloody battles to supply the French ships with emigrants. Give us only the power to place a few thousand American colonists on any part of the coast, and then you will see that the slave-catching wars will cease. There civilization will presently begin to take hold on the natives, and a lucrative commerce will spring up to reward the enterprise of our honest traders.

Colonization is preparing the way for *the conversion of the whole continent to Christ*. There is a congregation of several hundred native Christian converts at Bathurst on the Gambia. The same fruits of christian colonization are seen at Cape Coast Castle, on Fernando Po Island, and at various other points on the coast. It is well known that Liberia is full, so to speak, of Christian Churches. All the natives of that region have heard of Christ, and hundreds have been reclaimed from heathenism. Even the wild Kroo nation has supplied a preacher, who was drawing large congregations when I was last in Sierra Leone. The thirty thousand civilized Africans in Freetown worship God every sabbath day in twenty-three churches, built of stone, handsome edifices, which cost from two to twenty thousand dollars each, as I have been told, and some of them even more. In all these colonies there are Africans, recaptured slaves, qualified to preach the gospel in their native lands, which are scattered in widely separated parts of the continent. Numbers of them are anxious to return home, bearing the message of salvation. Some have already gone. A native prince (not a recaptured slave) is preaching the gospel in Kumasí, the capital of Ashantee, where his uncle is king. Native christians of the Egba or Yoruba tribes, have returned to their countrymen with English and African missionaries, and now there are twelve or fifteen hundred converts on the slave coast. At present they are afflicted by the wars consequent on the apprentice system, but a colony of American blacks would give peace to that distracted country. O, Lord God, confound the devices of the wicked, who are mighty to do evil! Give thy servants a secure dwelling-place, and let thy word run and be glorified!

Colonization is *founding a great English-speaking Empire*—not by fire and sword, like the conquerors of the earth, but by the peaceable powers of commerce, science, art, and Christianity. Never before has the world witnessed such a scene, of such conquerors sent forth with prayers and tears to create a great nation dedicated to truth, to happiness, and to God. This is the Lord's work; it cannot fail. The laws of physical nature favor us. The valleys and plains, prolific in vegetable and animal wealth—the mountains and hills, laden with iron, copper, lead, and gold—the great rivers, flowing from nation to nation, to the sea, are all pledges of success. Even the climate, inimical to the white man, but a kindly nursing mother to the African, is a pledge of success—success in *African* colonization. Here on the climate, God has written his decree, that the black man *shall* have a congenial home.

The immutable moral, and social laws, which govern human affairs, favor us. When civilization has once joined battle with barbarism, it has never failed. Let Europe, America, and India testify. In Africa, the barbarian will not melt away before the civilized man, as he has done in America, and as he must do in India. In Africa, as in the European portion of the old Romish Empire,

the conqueror and the conquered are the same race. They will coalesce, and form one nationality.

I will mention another social law which favors our cause. The relations of men, as of things, are justly founded on their properties. The properties of the white man and the black, are not the same. Their social relations cannot be practically identical. As the population of this continent becomes more and more dense, there must be a conflict of races, and the free black will be compelled to flee to the land of his fathers. Here, uniting with the civilized men of his own race, he will increase the power of that great English-speaking nation, which we foresee by the eye of enlightened faith.

Yet another law I will mention. Segregation is essential to the greatness of any race, or any nation. The position of Assyria and of Egypt, surrounded by immense deserts, was the secret of their power. The same law is exemplified again in Greece, in Northern Africa, in Italy, and in England. You may place the African on any part of the American continent, but he will be overwhelmed, and blotted out by the conflict of races. In Africa, and there only, is the appropriate home of the African. There he will be protected by the law of segregation, and there he will expand to the maximum greatness of his race.

Who shall define the future boundaries of the Anglo-African nation, which we are planting? When I have stood and looked on the wide sands of the desert, I have said in my heart, let the northern limit be here. When I have surveyed the beautiful and fertile plains of the interior, and thought of the great countries beyond me, far away to Lake Chad, I have claimed it all for my African countrymen. It is not too much to claim, since their presence there will be a blessing to themselves and their race. They will not enter the land of their fathers to kill and destroy. They have been at school in America, and are returning as teachers to Africa.

Perhaps, or some one may say, perhaps it is not time to *act*, but it is certainly time to *know*, that the Niger is the central hope of the free black in America. That great river, flowing for more than three thousand miles, first through the heart of the gold region, and then through one of the finest agricultural regions in the world, must become the highway for a vast commerce. When the wealth of Sudan floats on the Niger till it reaches Raba, it is probably seven hundred miles from the sea by the meanderings of the river, but it is only two hundred miles direct through Yoruba to Lagos, the best port on this part of the coast. Yoruba then must always be the key to the wealth and the influence of Sudan. The surface of the country, though rising with considerable rapidity from the sea, is admirably adapted to the construction of roads; and the day must come, when more than one railroad will be drawn from the Niger to the Bight of Benin.

The wars, to which I have alluded above, have left a large district in Yoruba and Egba without inhabitants. This depopulated region extends from near the sea to the banks of the Niger. There is room for two hundred thousand colonists from America. If once established there, they would soon command the traffic of several millions of people. This new colony would not only secure the key to Sudan, but it would give such an impulse to Colonization that most of the free blacks in America would hasten to Africa; some to Yoruba, others to Liberia, and others to still newer settlements connecting the two extremes. The generosity of England would yield up Sierra Leone to the growing cause; province after province would be added; the natives of the country,

like the Moors of Northern Africa, would gradually exchange their religion, and their language, for those of the immigrants; and at last, our English-speaking African nation would stand forth, vast, wealthy, full of civilized men, and full of Christian churches.

The Rev. Mr. SEYS then said:

MR. PRESIDENT—Ladies and Gentlemen:—My time-piece, and the fact that persons in groups are going away from this congregation because of the lateness of the hour, both admonish me that I would be wise in being exceedingly brief. As to making any address, Mr. President, I cannot think that the committee of arrangements designed any such thing, for the first intimation which I had of my being expected to speak on this occasion, was from my friend from New York, who, so late as last evening, informed me on my arrival in this city that I was announced as one of the speakers. The committee, sir, only designed to have a *report*. They regarded me as a spy, sent out to explore the promised land, to return and report. And now, sir, if another lady or gentleman leaves the house, I shall be so dispirited, and discouraged, that I shall not be able to make even that report. Indeed, had I not better stop at once, and give it up, Mr. President? (*cries of No, go on, go on, came forth from several directions.*)

I am, Mr. President, as I said, to report as a spy, and I bring with me not a bunch of grapes from the valley of Eschol, but something better than grapes from the mountains, not the hill country of Judea, but the top of Pisgah, from whence all the promised land in the distance can be seen.

Here, sir, is a piece of iron, not *iron ore*, but pure iron, veritable native iron, out of which the natives of Africa, without smelting, make some of their implements of husbandry and warfare. Here, too, is a specimen of cotton, superior cotton, from that home of the black man.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me inform you that, although for many years, I have been identified with the interests of Africa, lived many years in Liberia as the superintendent of the Methodist Missions in that country, have been there six times and back, yet never had I so onerous and even dangerous a mission imposed upon me as this last one. I went out to Africa to test a long mooted question, explore the mountainous range of country in the interior of the Republic of Liberia, select a site for a new settlement, and ascertain by the location of a certain number of colored persons from this country on that mountain range, whether the climate there was more salubrious than on the sea-board. And, Mr. President, conceive for a moment what a tramp that was. First, an exploration of the hills in the Queah country, then a trip by sea to Bassa, then an examination of the mountainous regions of that country, and then, by comparing these, select the most eligible, and commence clearing and building. I will not say how many times in pursuing a footpath, covered with water, and hiding from sight vines and small roots, which crossed that path like so many traps, my feet have been caught, and the result, a complete prostration, a somerser, hat and umbrella flying in different directions, and the fallen agent in the mud and water. Nor need I but merely allude to the fact that sometimes in crossing streams, bridged by the trunk of a tree, which was not only round, but now and then egg-shaped, the small end being uppermost, while the natives, monkey-like, would run over with perfect ease; discretion, prompted by the sight of the rapid stream some eight or ten feet below, induced me, though laughed at, to get astride, and so slowly, but surely, straddle across.

But, sir, the experiment has been made; and in reviewing the past, I feel that I can most heartily concur with the man of God from Virginia, who delivered the opening address on this occasion, when to the wise and unerring supervision of a most gracious Providence he attributes the success, all the success, which, from the very beginning, has attended this scheme of African colonization. I believe with him, Mr. President, that "America in Africa is the solution of the great problem of Africa in America." It is to the Providence of God, I must attribute the complete success which has attended the interior settlement. First, in the selection of the little band of pioneers. It was at first designed to select a few men before the sailing of the ship. But this was not done, and upon Dr. James Hall, who went out in the first voyage of the *Mary Caroline Stevens*, devolved the duty of selecting from the whole company of emigrants, after they sailed from America, the persons for this experiment. And most providentially was he led in this selection, Mr. President. No lazy loafers who had been formerly loungers in our market places, or at the corners of our streets, were picked out, but an industrious, hard-working, honest, and pious band, from Albermarle county, Virginia, from the estate of the late James Terrill, Esq. Twenty-two persons, including men, women, and children, and including all ages, from an old man of sixty-five years from Mobile, to the little girl of nine, made up the complement of this company. And these recently emancipated servants, going out, not knowing *where* they were going, taking the word of Dr. Hall, in whom they believed, and whom they trusted, never having known, or ever seen him before, that an agent had gone out before them to explore, to find a good place for them, to make a road to it, to build houses for them, and would be ready to receive and provide for them, said "*we will go*." Oh! sir, can I ever forget that hour when having been informed that the ship had arrived, I hastened to Monrovia, met my old friend Dr. Hall, received from him the pioneers, started for the interior, arrived safely on the 30th January, and there, around the staff, at the top of which the Liberian flag was waving in the fine mountain breeze, we all knelt down, and amid tears and sobs, and grateful emotions, offered prayers and songs of praise to that Great Being who is no respecter of persons. It was a scene on which the angels of heaven must have looked down with joy unspeakable. And then, sir, when we rose up, and these returned children of Africa gazed upon the prospect spread out before them, thirty miles or more stretching out in the distance in one direction, and thirty miles or more in another, one vast luxuriant forest covering a rich and fertile territory, and they were assured that this was their inheritance, then, sir, the gratitude they exhibited for the friends of African colonization; those noble philanthropists who had, under God, found this home for them in the land of their ancestors, was more than could be expressed in words.

This mountain village, now called Careysburgh, is on an elevation of at least five hundred feet from the level of the sea, and about fifty or fifty-one miles from Monrovia. It is reached by going up the St. Paul's river twenty-one miles, and then by land through a fine undulating and fertile country.

On my return to America, I was informed that there had been quite a famine in Liberia, but this is a great mistake, sir, for we all lived well at Careysburgh. Three times a day my people were called to their meals in our receptacle, and twice a week, sir, fed on venison, yes, sir, fine venison, for our forests abound in several varieties of excellent deer. Not unfrequently we had a chicken dinner for our little company of emigrants. And I am sure that I, myself, do not

look like a man who has been half starved. No, sir, we had no famine there, and as to the superior healthfulness of that mountain range, it must appear evident from the fact that of the original twenty-two who formed the pioneer band, all were alive and well, up to the 20th November, the date of my last advices, excepting one man, who by his own imprudence, when his six months were up, would travel in the rains away to the seaboard, exposed himself, was attacked with the fever, became ill, and only returned to the mountain to die among his friends. To this, let me add that some thirty-four of the emigrants by the M. C. Stevens, the very friends and relations of the pioneer band at Careysburgh, having been reduced by fever on the lower lands to a state of emaciation, took refuge among us in the mountain. These all recovered save one motherless babe, and a man who killed himself by over-eating, another instance, by the way, that we were not starving in Liberia. But, besides this, Mr. Chairman, my laborers, mechanics, and other men in our employ, obtained lots at Careysburgh, built houses, and were removing their families, designing to make that place their permanent residence.

I have observed that a most marked providence seemed to preside over our affairs from beginning to end. This is remarkable, that our people from Albermarle county were pious members of the Baptist Church, and such their devotion to God, that they came to me as soon as they were settled, and proposed the building of a church, and it must be pleasing to this assembly of Christians to learn that in two months less three days, from the time these pioneers first stood on that mountain, we dedicated to Almighty God a neat log church, where Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Methodists, all mingled in one united offering of praise and thanksgiving to God. And then, sir, in that log church, I have seen at the altar of prayer several of the poor children of the forest, boys and girls, adopted by us, and named after our benefactors in this country. There, some have been converted to God—evidences of His Divine approbation and blessing.

Our climate is one of the finest, our woods abounding in the best of timber, our water pure and delightful.

But, sir, I have been hearing something of a report that my friend, President Benson, is indebted to others for help in his public documents, and other official state business. Let me show these letters from His Excellency. See the penmanship of his private secretary, a young man from the Alexander High School, quite of classical education, and see in the matter dictated the mind and business-like manner of this statesman. And will you permit me to read a private letter—a kind of farewell letter from the President in answer to one from me, (letter read.) Please look at it, Mr. President.

And now I know it will amuse the ladies to hear something of the gentility, refinement, and elegance, with which our Liberian friends do up their social affairs. Let me read this little note of invitation to an evening party at the Mansion House. (Note read.)

I will further intrude by asking permission to show the effect of emigration to Liberia upon the poor emancipated slave. Let me read, sir, this letter from Samuel Williams to his old master, Amos Wade, Esq., of Newbern, North Carolina. It will show the gratitude of the liberated bondman, to his generous and much loved master. (*See Md. Col. Journal for November, 1857, page 89.*) I will now conclude, Mr. President, by saying that I returned from Liberia with fear and trembling. By some misunderstanding on the part of the govern-

ment of Liberia and this Society in reference to the interior settlements—no design to oppose them by any means—I was peremptorily ordered by the Executive Committee of this Society to break up Careysburgh, disband our little community, and send them to other parts. But, sir, my heart bled—how could I do any such thing? I had the temerity. I chose to disobey—absolutely disobey those orders. My friend Mr. McLain, on my left, called Careysburgh, in one of his letters to me, my *child*. Now, ladies and gentlemen, how could I send away my child to wander and perish, and die away from home. I disobeyed orders. I retrenched in the expenses, but I could not send away and scatter my children. I returned, moreover, with a beating heart. They will censure me, I thought; they will pass resolutions reprimanding their agent; I will be condemned. But not so. The Executive Committee received me with smiles and congratulations. The Board of Directors have approved and commended, and at this late hour, this intelligent and Christian assembly of ladies and gentlemen bear with me in this desultory talk, and even smile upon and cheer me with their approbation. Mr. President, the work of African Colonization is the work of God, and in “America in Africa,” we see, indeed, the solution of the problem of “Africa in America.”

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Maclean, President of Princeton College, it was

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this Society be presented to David Hunt, Esq., of Mississippi, for his most generous gift, during the year, of \$45,000 to its treasury.

The following resolutions, offered by Dr. James Hall, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the earnest and efficient labors of the Rev. John Seys, during his late special mission to Liberia, especially in conducting the experiment at Careysburgh, which, with a Divine blessing, resulted in the establishment of a prosperous interior settlement, entitle him to the warmest thanks of this Society.

Resolved, That we are solemnly bound to acknowledge with gratitude, the protection and favor of Almighty God to this Society and Liberia generally, and especially to the agent of this Society during his recent arduous labors in Liberia, and for the success of these labors in the establishment of the settlement interior, so full of hope and promise to our future emigrants.

On motion of the Corresponding Secretary, it was, unanimously,

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Dr. James Hall, for his very important services rendered to this Society during his late visit to Liberia, as well as for his efficient labors to advance its interests in the United States.

The Society then adjourned to meet the next day at 12 o'clock, in the Aldermen's Room, in the City Hall.

JANUARY 20, 1858.

The Society met according to adjournment; Mr. Whittlesey taking the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Rev. R. R. Gurley offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be presented to the Rev. P. Slaughter, D. D., the Rev. T. J. Bowen, and the Rev. John Seys, who favored this Society with addresses at the public meeting last evening, and that they be respectfully requested to furnish copies for publication.

On motion of the Corresponding Secretary, a committee was appointed to nominate the President and Vice Presidents of the Society for the coming year.

The committee appointed were Messrs. Gurley, Starr, and Conelly.

The committee nominated the following gentlemen for the President and the Vice Presidents of the Society, who were unanimously elected:

J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq., President.

Vice Presidents:

1. Gen. John H. Cocke, of Virginia.
2. Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer, of Virginia.
3. Rev. Jeremiah Day, D. D., of Connecticut.
4. Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, of N. J.
5. Moses Allen, Esq., of New York.
6. Gen. Walter Jones, of D. C.
7. Joseph Gates, Esq., of D. C.
8. Rt. Rev. Wm. Meade, D. D., of Virginia.
9. Rev. Jas. O. Andrew, D. D., Bishop of the M. E. Church, South.
10. Hon. Elisha Whittelsey, of Ohio.
11. Hon. Walter Lowrie, of New York.
12. Stephen Duncan, M. D., of Mississippi.
13. Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Virginia.
14. James Boorman, Esq., of New York.
15. Henry Foster, Esq., do.
16. Robert Campbell, Esq., of Georgia.
17. Hon. Peter D. Vroom, of New Jersey.
18. Hon. James Garland, of Virginia.
19. Hon. Willard Hall, of Delaware.
20. Rt. Rev. Wm. M. Otey, of Tennessee.
21. Gerard Ralston, Esq., of England.
22. Rev. C. Van Rensselaer, D. D., of N. J.
23. Thomas Hodgkin, M. D., of England.
24. Rev. E. Burgess, D. D., of Massachusetts.
25. Thomas R. Hazard, Esq., of Rhode Island.
26. Thomas Massie, M. D., of Virginia.
27. Gen. Winfield Scott, U. S. A.
28. Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, of New Jersey.
29. James Early, Esq., of Mississippi.
30. Rev. G. W. Bethune, D. D., of New York.
31. Rev. Beverly Vaughn, D. D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
32. Rev. W. B. Johnson, D. D., of S. Carolina.
33. Rt. Rev. C. P. Melvaine, D. D., of Ohio.
34. Rev. T. J. Edgar, D. D., of Tennessee.
35. Hon. J. R. Underwood, of Kentucky.
36. Rev. J. J. Janeway, D. D., of New Jersey.
37. Hon. H. L. Lumpkin, of Georgia.
38. James Lenox, Esq., of New York.
39. Rev. Joshua Soule, D. D., Bishop of the M. E. Church, South.
40. Rev. T. C. Upham, D. D., of Maine.
41. Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio.
42. Hon. Thomas W. Williams, of Conn.
43. Rev. John Early, D. D., of Virginia.
44. Rev. Lovick Pierce, D. D., of Georgia.
45. Hon. R. J. Walker, of Mississippi.
46. Charles McMicken, Esq., of Ohio.
47. John Bell, M. D., of Pennsylvania.
48. Hon. Charles M. Conrad, of Louisiana.
49. Rev. Robert Ryland, of Virginia.
50. Hon. Fred. P. Stanton, of Tennessee.
51. Rev. Nathan Bangs, D. D., of New York.
52. John Beveridge, Esq., of New York.
53. Hon. James M. Wayne, of Georgia.
54. Hon. Robert F. Stockton, of New Jersey.
55. Hon. Henry W. Collier, of Alabama.
56. Hon. Edward Everett, of Massachusetts.
57. Hon. Washington Hunt, of New York.
58. Hon. Horatio Seymour, do.
59. Hon. Joseph A. Wright, of Indiana.
60. Hon. Jos. C. Hornblower, of New Jersey.
61. Hon. George F. Fort, of New Jersey.
62. Gen. John S. Dorsey, do.
63. Hon. Ralph J. Ingersoll, of Conn.
64. Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., do.
65. Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, of Penn.
66. Hon. Edward Coles, of Penn.
67. Rev. Howard Malcom, D. D., of Penn.
68. Rev. J. P. Dublin, D. D., of Penn.
69. Edward McGhee, Esq., of Mississippi.
70. Thomas Henderson, Esq., do.
71. Daniel Turnbull, Esq., of Louisiana.
72. Hon. Thomas H. Seymour, of Conn.
73. Hon. Samuel F. Vinton, of Ohio.
74. Rev. O. C. Baker, of New Hampshire, Bishop of the M. E. Church.
75. Hon. William Appleton, of Massachusetts.
76. Rev. E. S. James, D. D., of N. Y., Bishop of the M. E. Church.
77. Rev. Matthew Simpson, D. D., of Penn., Bishop of the M. E. Church.
78. Rev. Levi Scott, D. D., of Del., Bishop of the M. E. Church.
79. Rev. R. R. Gurley, of D. C.
80. E. R. A. Betti, Esq., of Florida.
81. Judge Ormond, of Alabama.
82. Hon. Daniel Chandler, do.
83. Rev. Robt. Paine, D. D., Bishop of the M. E. Church, South.
84. Hon. J. J. Crittenden, of Kentucky.
85. Rev. R. J. Breckenridge, D. D., of Ky.
86. Solomon Sturges, Esq., of Ohio.
87. Rev. T. A. Morris, D. D., of Ohio, Bishop of the M. E. Church.
88. Henry Stoddard, Esq., of Ohio.
89. Rev. E. R. Ames, D. D., of Indiana, Bishop of the M. E. Church.
90. Hon. S. A. Douglass, of Illinois.
91. Rev. James C. Finley, do.
92. Hon. Edward Bates, of Missouri.
93. Hon. J. B. Miller, do.
94. Hon. W. F. Darby, do.
95. Rev. N. L. Rice, D. D., do.
96. Hon. H. S. Foote, of California.
97. Hon. J. B. Crocket, do.
98. Gov. H. Dutton, of Connecticut.
99. David Hunt, Esq., of Mississippi.
100. Capt. George F. Patton, of Maine.
101. John Knickerbocker, Esq., of New York.
102. Richard Hall, Esq., of Georgia.

The Rev. Dr. Pinney submitted a preamble and resolutions against the slave trade, especially against the recent disguised renewal of it. Mr. Gurley suggested as a substitute a resolution, which he had prepared, expressive of the importance of making the slave trade piracy by the law of nations, in accordance with a nearly unanimous vote of the House of Representatives of the United States, in 1823 and 1824. After some discussion, the whole subject was referred to a special committee: Dr. Pinney, Dr. Slaughter, and Mr. Gurley.

The Society then adjourned until to-morrow (the 21st,) at 12 o'clock M.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21st.

The Society met according to adjournment, the Hon. E. Whittlesey in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Pinney, from the committee on the slave trade, submitted a report. [At this point, the following note was received, and read by the Corresponding Secretary, from the venerable C. F. Mercer, one of the ablest friends, and earliest Vice-Presidents of the Society:

WASHINGTON, January 21, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR:—Do not fail to have drawn up a protest to the world, or a memorial to the President, against the abominable revival of the slave trade, by France.

The resolution of Congress renewed in 1833, contains a request of the President to renew "*from time to time*," until successful, his negotiations with foreign nations, to make the slave trade piracy by universal consent. On the first occasion, this act passed almost unanimously, on the last, without a dissenting voice.

Your friend, C. F. MERCER.]

After discussion, the following preamble and resolution, offered by the Rev. Dr. Slaughter, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the Society has always deprecated the foreign slave trade: therefore, as the great end of the Colonization Society is the civilizing and Christianizing of Africa, and as the slave trade opposes one of the greatest obstacles to the realization of this idea; therefore,

Resolved, That this Society rejoices in the signal rebuke with which the mere suggestion of its revival has met in all parts of our common country.

The Society then adjourned to meet on the third Tuesday in January, 1859.

Proceedings of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society met on Tuesday, January 19th, 1858, at 12 o'clock at noon, in the Aldermen's Room, in the City Hall, in the City of Washington.

DELEGATES, AS ASCERTAINED BY THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS, FOR 1858.

Maine—Hon. Robert P. Dunlap.

Massachusetts—Rev. Joseph Tracy.

Connecticut—Hon. L. F. S. Foster, Hon. Samuel Ingham, Hon. Samuel Arnold, 2d, Hon. W. D. Bishop, Eli Whitney, Esq., George W. Shelton, Esq., Rev. John Orcutt.

New York—Hon. Erastus Brooks, A. G. Phelps, Esq., Smith Bloomfield, Esq., Rev. Henry Connelly.

New Jersey—John P. Jackson, Esq.

Ohio—Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, Hon. J. W. Allen, Rev. John Seys.

Virginia—Rev. P. Slaughter, Rev. W. H. Starr, Rev. J. B. Taylor, Rev. T. J. Bowen, Rev. J. C. Granberry.

LIFE DIRECTORS PRESENT.

Hon. Henry Stoddard, Rev. John Maclean, D. D., Rev. R. R. Gurley, Rev. William McLain, Rev. J. B. Pinney, Rev. Robert S. Finley, James Hall, Esq.

The Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, Vice President, was called to the chair, and at his request the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Maclean.

Rev. Joseph Tracy was chosen Secretary, and Rev. John Orcutt assistant Secretary.

The Rev. John Orcutt, Rev. John Seys, and Henry Stoddard, Esq., were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The record of the last meeting was read by the Rev. Wm. McLain, one of the Secretaries, and on motion was approved.

The Rev. John Orcutt offered the following preamble and resolution, which were unanimously adopted.

Whereas it hath pleased God to remove from us by death our much esteemed Recording Secretary, Dr. J. W. LUGENBEEL; and NOAH FLETCHER, for some years accountant in the office of the Society; therefore,

Resolved, That this Board recognize these dispensations of Providence with sincere sorrow, and that while we express our sense of the loss thereby sustained by this Society and the cause of Colonization, we would tender our warm sympathies to the afflicted families of our departed friends, in their sore bereavement.

The Corresponding Secretary read the annual report, which was laid on the table for the present.

The Committee on Credentials reported, in part, and the report was accepted, as far as made.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Maclean, the Rev. John Wheeler, D. D., Rev. H. M. Blodgett, Dr. J. G. Goble, Rev. Charles Brown, and Smith Bloomfield, Esq., were invited to sit with this Board and partake in its deliberations.

Messrs. Gurley, Tracy, and Orcutt, were appointed a committee to make selections from the annual report, to be read at the public meeting of the Society.

The Financial Secretary read the annual statement of the doings of the Executive Committee, which was accepted.

The Board then adjourned to meet at 9 A. M. to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20th.

The Board of Directors met according to adjournment. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. H. M. Blodgett. The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Travelling Secretary presented his annual report, which was adopted:

HARTFORD, CONN., January 1, 1858.

Rev. R. R. Gurley, *Cor. Sec. A. C. S.*

Dear Sir:—Permit me respectfully to submit the following as my report for the year 1857.

Early in the year, as you are aware, Rev. Wm. Warren, who had been appointed my successor in Connecticut, after rendering a very valuable service for a few months, was induced to resign his agency from a conviction that his impaired health disqualified him to discharge, properly, the duties of the office; and it being judged inexpedient to appoint another in his place, I have endeavored

vored to give as much time to the cultivation of this field as the good of the cause demanded. The State has paid into your treasury, from all sources, the sum of \$3,805.03.

Beyond the limits of Connecticut, my attention has been chiefly directed to Maine and Rhode Island, the agency in those States having been discontinued. In Maine, I visited Saco, Portland, Bath, Bangor, Waterville, and Augusta, and had the privilege of presenting the cause to twenty different congregations. While in the State, I was kindly favored with the use of the Representatives' Hall for the purpose of addressing the members of the Legislature. The same courtesy was extended to me in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

The amount of my collections in Maine was about \$625—to which add what had been collected by others, and it gives an amount creditable to our friends there, considering the financial pressure and the limited efforts made. The last year has been a peculiarly hard year for that State—probably no previous one more so, owing to a great depression in the lumber and shipping business, in which she is very largely engaged.

In Rhode Island, I visited Slatersville, Pautucket, Bristol, Warren, Providence, and Newport, in which places I addressed eleven congregations, and received about \$425, the greater part of which was contributed by individuals who had previously given to the cause during the year—making a total for the State of over \$800. I have also preached on the subject to eight congregations in Boston and vicinity, where I received some \$300 for life-membership. I spent a single sabbath in Nashua, N. H.; also in Newark and Princeton, N. J.; in each of which I occupied one or more pulpits in behalf of the cause.

About the middle of November, in accordance with the wish of the Executive Committee, I went out to Indiana—mainly for the purpose of having an interview with the Colonization Board of that State in relation to matters which came before the Board of Directors at the last annual meeting. Governor Willard, who is President of the Indiana Board, received me very kindly, and at once called the members together for the object I had in view. After a free and harmonious interchange of sentiments on the subject in question, I received a communication from the President, embodying the views entertained by the Board, which I herewith present, and which contains, I suppose, all the information in relation to the matter that need be communicated.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NOV. 25, 1857.

Dear Sir:—You request to be informed as to the policy of our State Board of Colonization. The Board believe that as officers of State, they should disburse the \$5,000 annually given by the State, for the removal of the negroes, and then their duties are discharged. We do not desire our agent to solicit subscriptions, but simply procure the negroes who are willing to emigrate, and then we will advance the \$50 per head. As to the American Colonization Society entering the field to procure donations to aid that Society in its enterprise, we have no objection; but earnestly hope you may be successful.

Yours,

ASHBEL P. WILLARD.

President St. Board Colonization.

Rev. John Orcutt.

I remained in Indiana and Ohio some six weeks, and visited Indianapolis, Lafayette, Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, Cleveland, and Canfield—in each of which, with the exception of Cincinnati, I passed a sabbath, and enjoyed the privilege of presenting the claims of the cause to large and attentive audiences—occupying, in all, twelve pulpits. I found the people very willing to hear, and to promise to give when the times become better: but the feeling was general and strong that efforts to raise funds among them better be postponed. We have ardent friends in those States, who will doubtless give further proof of it when the money pressure is over: a few such handed me about \$150. At Indianapolis I was informed that a legacy of \$500 had been left the American Colonization Society, by William S. Taylor, of Jasper County, Indiana. I accordingly took measures to ascertain the facts in the case, and found that said legacy was to be paid in annual instalments of \$100, and that a portion of it was due, and would soon be paid, and the remainder in due time.

It gives me pleasure to say, the Rev. E. G. Nicholson, the agent of the parent Society for a portion of Ohio, is very acceptable to the people, and is making a good impression. From what I saw and heard of him, I have great confidence in his ability and fidelity in the work, and, of course, of his success.

The whole amount of my collections for the year somewhat exceeds \$5,000. This includes \$450, given for the Liberia College, and \$100, or more, contributed by individuals to pay for reprinting 2,000 copies of Rev. Alexander Crummell's oration in Liberia, on the natal day of the Republic, and for procuring 500 copies of Professor Shedd's address in Boston, for general distribution. These excellent discourses, and other documents calculated to diffuse useful information, and promote the welfare of the cause, have been freely distributed in the several towns and cities I have visited, and sent by mail to individuals in nearly every State in the Union.

I have addressed in all 82 different congregations—34 in Connecticut, and 52 in other States. By public discourse, by the printed page, and by private intercourse, I have been enabled to present the subject to many minds, and, I trust, to make some good impressions for the cause.

The year, like the previous one, has been very unpropitious for collecting funds. This was unexpected, but it was doubtless thus ordered for the best of reasons. Notwithstanding our disappointments and trials, we can speak of progress, for which it becomes us to "thank God and take courage." What single year has effected more that is encouraging in Liberia? It is true we have heard of a famine there; but it turns out that most of the sufferings occasioned by it were on this side of the Atlantic. The voice from her shores is not the voice of war and famine, but of peace and plenty, and of signal prosperity. Nor are we without marked evidence of the Divine favor here at home. How timely was our scanty treasury replenished by unprecedented liberality! thereby enabling the Society to prosecute its accustomed work without incurring the evils of bankruptcy or suspension! In the language of Judge Washington, the first President of the Society, uttered at its first meeting:

"Whether we consider the grandeur of the object, or the wide sphere of philanthropy which it embraces; or whether we view the present state of its progress, under the auspices of this Society, and under the obstacles which might have been expected from the cupidity of many, we may discover in each a certain pledge, that the same benignant Hand which has fostered these preparatory arrangements, will crown our efforts with success."

In closing, I can but advert to the sad event which has taken from us our much esteemed Recording Secretary. In the death of Dr. Eugenebel, we have experienced a sore bereavement. As a man, as a Christian, as a friend of the cause, and an officer of the Society, we knew him only to love and value him.

While we deeply mourn his departure, we would bow with submission to the will of Providence, and profit by the impressive lesson.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, yours,

JNO. ORCUTT,
Treas. Sec'y A. C. S.

The Financial Secretary presented his annual financial statement, which was referred to the Committee on Accounts;— see page 62;] also, the report of Dr. Hall in regard to the Mary C. Stevens. The following is Dr. Hall's report:

BALTIMORE, January 1, 1858.

Rev. Wm. McLain, F. Sec. & Tr. A. C. S.

Dear Sir:—I herewith hand you an estimate of the expenses and income of the two first voyages of the Ship Mary Caroline Stevens, covering all charges and earnings entire, including under head of the latter all the freight and passage money of the Society; also other freight for which payment has, and has not, been received. These two voyages may be considered as one year's service of the ship. The charges amount to \$15,846.03—say the round sum of \$16,000. The earnings, to \$21,961.38—say \$22,000—leaving a balance in favor of the ship of the round sum of \$6,000. The charges cover all disbursements, victualing and manning, port-charges, provisions for officers, crew, cabin and steerage passengers, and insurance; in all of which I have practiced

the strictest economy the circumstances of the case would warrant, and I believe we cannot calculate upon any material deduction from the annual outlay of this sum in making two voyages with the ship; and every third or fourth year we may expect an increase of some \$2,000 for re-coppering and general repairs connected therewith. On the other hand, we may reasonably expect an increase of earnings, not only on account of the Society, but from other parties for freight out and home. Thus far the ship has not carried the quota of emigrants allowed by law, nor the number of cabin passengers she could well accommodate. On her first voyage out with 150 tons of stone ballast, she still had room for over 1,000 bbls of freight. On her second voyage, she went full, but it not being known in season that she would have enough to ballast her, 200 tons of sand ballast were allowed to remain in her hold. On neither voyage home has her freight amounted to \$100. I think that we may reasonably expect that sufficient freight will be offered hereafter to fill her on her outward passage, and that we may be able to get home freight sufficient to ballast her at least.

It would not be out of the way, perhaps, to estimate her earnings hereafter at 24 or 25,000 dollars; however, much will depend upon the coast trade and the prosperity of the Republic.

It may also not be out of the way to remark, that the ship has in every way equalled, and in some respects exceeded our expectations. She is a very fast sailer and an uncommonly safe and comfortable sea-boat—the emigrants' deck scarcely ever being wetted by seas or breakers. The comforts and conveniences of her cabin arrangements are equal to any sailing vessel of her tonnage afloat, and the conduct of her captain and officers, the services of the cook and steward, and the provisions furnished for their use, have given such entire satisfaction, that I believe no one who has once made a passage in her will be likely to seek any other vessel in preference.

I will also take this opportunity to notice one matter personal to myself, viz: that of my compensation for acting as agent, or doing the business of the ship. In your favor of 18th April you say, "The Executive Committee propose a compensation of 2½ per cent. on the whole business of the ship, not to exceed \$1,000 per annum." I declined accepting this proposition, preferring to leave the matter in suspense till the close of one year. You are aware that the ordinary commission allowed for doing business of this kind, chartering or sailing vessels, buying provisions and cargo, with cash in hand, is 2½ per cent. and from 1 to 2½ per cent. more for advancing. A business of this nature, amounting to the sum of the year's business of the ship, would usually occupy a week or two of time, and perhaps require the exchange of from two to a dozen letters. The agency of this ship almost furnishes the business of the entire year. She is in port from two to three months, during which time the office is seldom if ever free from some parties interested in her, and while absent on her voyages, the correspondence of all parties, having business or friends, or servants in Liberia, either past or prospective, falls on the agent of the ship. That a proper estimate may be formed of the amount of this labor, I hand you herewith the letter file and book of the ship, of which over two hundred pages of each have been filled since April 20th—but a little over eight months; and near half as much more in my private letter-book, prior to the first voyage of the ship, and by my agent during my absence in Liberia. I leave the matter with you to lay before the Executive Committee, or the Board of Directors, whichever you may see fit—merely suggesting, that in case a low per centage is fixed upon, as compensation, the amount should not be limited by any sum, unless an equivalent was made in case of a falling off of freight and emigrants, which, in fact, would amount to fixing a salary, in which case \$1,000, and not less, would be satisfactory; or I would agree to furnish on my own account one thousand barrels of freight, either out or home, during the year, which should be considered as a full compensation for services as agent.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

JAMES HALL.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES AND INCOME OF SHIP M. C. STEVENS—VOYAGE A.

Amounts paid.		Amounts received.	
Bill of Provisions for voyage paid here - - - -	1,854 94	Four cabin passengers out, \$100 - - - - -	400 00
Other port-charges & outfit	670 00	Freight paid by shippers	512 50
Disbursements on coast -	371 44	Estimate of freight on home	1,000 00
Do. of entry and repairs - - - - -	789 38	Freight paid Capt. Daniels in Liberia - - - -	187 00
Officers and crew—voyage round - - - - -	2,105 00	Freight home, paid by G. W. S. Hall - - - -	83 05
Half insurance for one year	1,602 38	Coastwise passengers -	190 00
		Cabin passengers home -	1,275 00
		Steerage passengers home	402 50
			4,050 05
		Steerage, 146 adults, at \$35	5,110 00
		71 children, \$17½	1,242 00
	7,393 14	Freight bill of A. C. S. -	850 00
			11,252 05
Balance to Cr. of Voy. A.	3,858 91		

Baltimore, Jan. 1, 1858.

JAMES HALL, Agent, &c.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES AND INCOME OF SHIP M. C. STEVENS—VOYAGE B.

Amounts paid.		Amounts received.	
Provisions of crew and emigrants - - - - -	1,977 82	Freight out - - - - -	988 69
Deducting for sales surplus on the coast by McGill Bros. - - - - -	339 01	1½ cabin passengers -	150 00
	1,638 81	Freight for steam engine, saw-mill, &c. - - - -	500 00
Repairs and disbursements at home - - - - -	2,428 96	Freight paid capt. on coast	446 39
Repairs and disbursements on coast - - - - -	658 03	Do. home - - - - -	81 25
Advance to crew—wages -	2,114 72	Cabin passengers home -	600 00
Half insurance for one year	1,602 37	Steerage do. do. -	448 00
	8,442 89		3,214 33
	2,266 44	Passage of 147 adults out, at \$35 - - - - -	5,145 00
		Passage of 60 children, at \$17½ - - - - -	1,050 00
		Freight on acc't of A.C.S.	1,300 00
			10,709 33
Balance to Cr. of Voy. B. -			

Baltimore, Jan. 1, 1858.

JAMES HALL, Agent, &c.

Mr. Tracy offered the following resolution:

Whereas by the last will and testament of Isaac Ross, of Mississippi, the residue of his estate, after satisfying other legacies, was devoted to the establishment and support of a College in Liberia; therefore,

Resolved, That any residue of said estate that may be in or come into the possession of this Society, or the proceeds thereof, be placed at the disposal of the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, to be used in the establishment and support of Liberia College.

The chair appointed Rev. Dr. Maclean, Rev. Mr. Orcutt, and Henry Stoddard, Esq., as a Committee on Accounts.

The Corresponding Secretary presented a communication from the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, which was laid on the table.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Pinney, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed relative to the packet ship *Stevens*, to report upon all questions concerning her past and future management, and the general policy of packet lines to Liberia from ports in the United States, and especially on the subject of insurance, agencies, employment and accounts, of the *M. C. Stevens*.

Messrs. Pinney, Jackson and Slaughter were appointed as said committee.

The resolution offered by Mr. Tracy was taken up and discussed, till the hour of 12 M. having arrived, the Board adjourned till after the meeting of the Society.

After the adjournment of the Society, the Board adjourned to meet at the Society's office, at 7½ P. M.

— EVENING SESSION. —

The Board met according to adjournment. The Chair announced the Standing Committees as follows:

ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, - - -	{ Rev. J. B. Pinney, LL. D., Rev. R. R. Gurley, Rev. T. J. Bowen.
ON FINANCE, - - - - -	{ John P. Jackson, Esq., Rev. J. B. Taylor, John W. Allen, Esq.
ON AUXILIARY SOCIETIES, - - -	{ Rev. Joseph Tracy, Rev. John Seys. Rev. William H. Starr.
ON AGENCIES, - - - - -	{ Rev. P. Slaughter, Erastus Brooks, Esq., Rev. William McLain.
ON ACCOUNTS, - - - - -	{ Rev. John Maclean, Rev. John Orcutt, Hon. Henry Stoddard.
ON EMIGRATION, - - - - -	{ James Hall, M. D., Rev. R. S. Finley, Rev. John Maclean, D. D.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Maclean,

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

The committee were, Rev. Dr. Maclean, Henry Stoddard, Esq., and Rev. P. Slaughter, D. D.

The resolution on the Liberia College being under consideration, on motion of Mr. Jackson, it was

Resolved, That the resolution be referred to a committee, with instructions to report on the relations which this Society bears to the said college enterprise, the present condition and merits of the proposed institution, and the interest which this Society shall continue to manifest for the same.

Messrs. Tracy, Jackson, and Gurley, were appointed said committee.

Rev. Mr. Finley offered the following resolution, which after some discussion was referred to the Committee on Emigration:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be requested to settle the emigrants by the November Expedition in Careysburgh, except such of them as may for

special reasons be located elsewhere; and that their farms be surveyed, and a house built on each farm previously to their arrival, so that each family may be settled in their own homes immediately on their arrival in Liberia.

Resolved, That instead of the six months rations heretofore allowed to emigrants, the value of the same be given to them by way of outfit.

The Board then adjourned to meet at the same place at 11 A. M. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 11 o'clock A. M.

The Board met according to adjournment. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Wheeler.

The Committee on Foreign Relations reported. Their report was accepted, and the resolutions annexed thereto adopted:

The Committee on Foreign Relations are happy to report that Liberia enjoys peace with all foreign nations and with all the native African tribes. England and France have not only acknowledged the independence of Liberia, but have in other ways expressed interest in her welfare, and each has presented to her Government a small armed vessel. The independence of this Republic has been acknowledged by several other of the European Powers. Very friendly relations exist between our own Government and Liberia, but hitherto the independence of that Republic has not been formally acknowledged by us.

The relations of Liberia to the tribes and nations of Africa is full of increasing interest and promise. Those under her jurisdiction enjoy protection, and are considered as in preparation for citizenship. The Republic has bound herself to establish schools for their benefit, as soon as her means shall permit, and train them to a knowledge of the useful arts. Nor can we doubt that the intellectual and moral benefits of Liberia will gradually extend far beyond its present limits. It is to be desired and expected that Sierra Leone and Liberia will be eventually united under one government securing to the latter, the advantage of the best harbor on the coast, and to the former, the benefit of republican institutions. Your Committee see in the character and training of American colored emigrants, and in the republican government they have adopted, elements of power which must extend. A certain district of the fine, high, open, healthy country in Yoruba, southwest of the Niger, and extending from the sea coast to that river, now, in consequence of civil wars, and the slave trade, without inhabitants, is strongly recommended for colonization from numerous considerations. A settlement planted upon it, would enjoy great advantages for trade, agriculture, and for diffusing civilization through an already half-civilized country, and the knowledge of Christianity far abroad in Central Africa. Settlements in the interior, on the New Jersey tract, in the Pessa country, and other regions, should be established as early as the means of the Society and as other duties shall permit, should the measure be approved by the Liberian Government. This Committee particularly recommend that inquiry be instituted in regard to the Yoruba district, and that the Executive Committee be authorized, should they find the way open in Providence, and deem it expedient, to send a special agent to obtain definite information as to the most eligible location, and the practicality of securing it and the good will of the neighboring native governments. In conclusion, the committee would offer the following resolutions:

J. B. PINNEY,
R. R. GURLEY.
T. J. BOWEN.

The following are the resolutions submitted, and as modified, were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the success of Careyburgh, by demonstrating the superior healthfulness of new emigrants in interior settlements, distinctly points to the importance of similar settlements to be extended yet farther, and from other parts of the coast of Liberia.

2. *Resolved*, That the union of Liberia and Sierra Leone, under the same independent republican government, is an event much to be desired by the

friends of the African race; and one which we may hope to see consummated, through the generosity of Great Britain, eventually.

3. *Resolved*, That the propriety and practicability of the establishment of colonial settlements on the slave coast, and in the adjacent kingdom of Yoruba, is a subject worthy of the consideration of this Society, and of the friends of African colonization.

At 12 o'clock the Board adjourned until after the meeting of the Society.

At 2 o'clock the Board resumed its session.

The Committee on Accounts made the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution adopted:

The Committee on Accounts respectfully report, that they have examined the accounts of the Financial Secretary, have compared the different entries with the vouchers, and find them all correct. The balance in the hands of the Financial Secretary, exclusive of bonds and notes, is \$412 77. It may be proper to add, that the Secretary has credited himself with \$6,000 paid by him for two bonds of the corporation of the City of Alexandria, bearing interest, which bonds remain in his hands, as part of the available funds of the Society, and he has also credited himself with \$10,000, paid for the note of Messrs. Corse Brothers for that amount, which will become due on the 26th and 29th February, proximo, which sum is also a part of the available funds of the Society. Both said sums having been paid out by the Secretary under an order of the Executive Committee, are proper items of credit; and your Committee advert to them to prevent any misapprehension as to the funds of the Society. The Secretary has also four bonds of \$1,000 each of the State of Virginia, with coupons, which are credited in the same way. The Committee take great pleasure in bearing their testimony to the care and ability with which the Financial Secretary has hitherto discharged his arduous and responsible duties; at the same time they would suggest the expediency of a change in the mode of keeping his bank account, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter the Financial Secretary be instructed to deposit the funds belonging to the Society, in such bank or banks as may be approved by the Executive Committee, and that all such funds be deposited by him, in his name, as Financial Secretary of the American Colonization Society.

In the course of the examination of the accounts, the Committee observed that there appeared to be no fixed times for the payment of the salaries of the several officers of the Society; and they therefore recommend, in regard to this matter, the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter the salaries shall be paid quarterly, and at the end of each quarter.

It is proper perhaps to add, that the comparing the vouchers with the items of the Secretary's accounts, was made by Messrs. Stoddard and Orcutt—the chairman of the Committee not being able to meet with the Committee during the whole of the time they were in session.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

From an examination of the minutes of the Board of Directors for some years past, it does not appear that any specific duties have been performed by the Committee on Finance, and in one instance only, that any report or resolution has been presented by them. The impression seems to have obtained, that the Committee on Accounts superseded their action, and left no business for them. It is, however, respectfully submitted, that an important department of the Society's affairs devolves on the Committee on Finance, as the finances are a very essential element of its usefulness and prosperity, and that, therefore, some specific service should be expected from that Committee. This Committee entertaining these views, it is recommended that hereafter, they should deem it their duty to examine minutely into the financial condition of the Society, present and prospective, embracing a specific examination of the character and safety of all investments of the Society's funds, as exhibited by the accounts of the Financial Secretary, and to report the result of such examination; and

that it be the further duty of the Committee on Finance to recommend such plans and measures as they may consider calculated to increase the interest of our national and State governments, and the benevolent and Christian community, in our Society, and thus to augment its resources and operations.

In view of the foregoing suggestions, the following resolutions are respectfully submitted:

Resolved, That, hereafter, it be the duty of the Committee on Finance, to examine minutely into the financial condition of the Society, present and prospective, embracing a specific examination of the character and safety of all investments of the Society's funds, as exhibited by the accounts of the Financial Secretary, and to report the result of such examination.

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance recommend such measures to be adopted by this Society, as they may consider calculated to increase the interest of our national and State governments, and the benevolent and Christian community, in our Society, and to augment its resources and operations.

Resolved, That the indications of more general knowledge, and more favorable appreciation of the true character and moral magnitude of our Society's designs, by our patriotic and philanthropic fellow-citizens, as manifested by the action of several of our State Legislatures, and the large donations and bequests of benevolent individuals, should prompt the officers and agents of the Society, and its advocates throughout the land, to diffuse full information of the humane designs, and successful operations of the American Colonization Society, to the end that liberal appropriations, donations, and bequests, may be encouraged from all portions of our country, as upon these resources this Society must rely for the vigorous and effective prosecution of its comprehensive objects.

JOHN R. JACKSON, *Chairman*.

JAS. B. TAYLOR.

The Committee on Emigration reported, and their report was accepted, and their resolutions adopted:

The Committee on Emigration beg leave most respectfully to report:

In regard to the business of the present year, they would recommend that all emigrants making applications for passage, to the extent of the capacity of the ship for two voyages, should be received and sent out, and that there should be no abatement of efforts on the part of the agents of the Society to promote emigration. In regard to the resolution submitted to the Board, they would most cordially express their approval of that part relating to the settlement of emigrants at Careysburg, not only by the November expedition, but by every expedition, until that settlement shall have received such increase of numbers as to guarantee its permanency and self-support and protection. But the Committee would not be disposed at this time to recommend any change in the long practised system of settling emigrants, so materially increasing its expense, as is that proposed in the resolution. They can see no objection, however, to the special appropriation of funds by associations or individuals, to the erection of dwellings, or the improvement of lots, and that expenditures for such purposes should be made through the agency of the Society. The Committee would, therefore, recommend the following as a substitute for the resolution submitted to them:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be requested to make arrangements to have settled at Careysburgh, all emigrants by the several expeditions excepting such as may for special reasons be destined to other settlements in Liberia; that the lands to be appropriated to them be surveyed in advance, and ready for allotment as soon as practicable after their arrival, and that any funds specially appropriated for the erection of dwellings, or clearing and cultivating lands for any parties, individuals, or associations, shall be devoted to the purposes intended, under the direction of the local agent of the Society.

Resolved, That in case any emigrants are settled in their own houses built without cost or charge to the Society, they shall receive from the agents of the Society the regular weekly rations to which they are entitled, if they shall desire it.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES HALL, *Chairman*.

Adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

The Board met according to adjournment.

The Committee on Collegiate Education in Liberia, submitted the following report and resolution, which were adopted:

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution on the residue of the Ross estate, and the general subject of collegiate education in Liberia, respectfully report as follows:

The Trustees of Donations for education in Liberia were incorporated by an act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, approved March 19, 1850, and are authorized by their charter, to hold real and personal estate to the value of \$100,000, the income whereof shall be applied to the promotion of collegiate education in Liberia. In the absence of the official documents, the exact amount of funds collected by this corporation cannot now be stated, but it is understood to be about \$30,000.

Our late lamented associate, Anson G. Phelps, of New York, in his will, bequeathed to his executors the sum of \$50,000, to be applied at their discretion to the promotion of the same object, in case the enterprise of these trustees should proceed, and the whole sum of \$100,000 be raised in this country for that purpose.

The New York Colonization Society has in trust for education in Liberia, funds to the amount of about \$52,000, with the confident assurance of some additional thousands. The whole or any part of this is applicable at the discretion of that Society to this object. If the whole is so applied, the amount already secured exceeds \$80,000, not including the bequest of Mr. Phelps. At the suggestion of the Trustees of Donations, an act was passed by the Legislature of Liberia, approved December 24, 1851, establishing Liberia college, and incorporating its Board of Trustees in Liberia; but conferring on the Trustees of Donations in America, the right to appoint all officers of instruction and government, until such time as the Trustees of the college shall see fit to assume the entire responsibility of the management and support of that institution.

Thus empowered the Trustees of Donations have appointed the Hon. J. J. Roberts, President of said college, and he has accepted that office.

The act of the Legislature of Liberia incorporating the college granted to its Trustees, one hundred acres of land, at Clay Ashland, which was supposed to be an eligible site for the college.

The Trustees of Donations have purchased and sent out the materials for college buildings, expecting that they would be erected on the land granted by the Legislature. But on careful examination by the Trustees of the college, that site was pronounced unsafe in respect to health. Attempts were made to procure other desirable locations in that vicinity, but owing to private claims on the lands desired, they were unsuccessful. It was finally decided to erect the building on Cape Mesurado, about a mile from the city of Monrovia, on the southwestern slope of the promontory fronting the ocean. This location is believed to be more salubrious than any that could be obtained on the St. Paul's river, and has other advantages of more importance. It is understood that the work of erection is now in progress, and that the walls and roof will be completed during the present dry season. As is the case everywhere in locating colleges, academies, churches, and all analogous institutions, there has been some difference of opinion respecting the location of this college, growing out of differing views and habits of thought and local interests and influences. It is not important, if indeed it is practicable, for us to settle the merits of the several opinions on this point. Probably the growth of the country will at no very distant day, bring to light some location so much better than any yet known, as to induce its removal. The Trustees of Donations have made some progress in securing such officers of the institution as may be necessary, in the early stages of the college. For various reasons, it would be improper to mention names at present, but it is understood that sufficient teachers will be ready whenever the buildings are completed.

At least two of the missions in Liberia have High schools, which it was even thought might grow into colleges. But it is now understood by them, that there can, for many years, be but one successful college in Liberia, and

they are making their calculations accordingly. These schools may furnish some students fitted for college, though we are not informed whether they will take that course.

This enterprise was undertaken with the express approbation of this Society, and in the judgment of the Committee, still deserves its approbation and support, and should be commended to the favorable consideration of all the friends of Liberia. As it appears, however, that there will be no residue of the Ross estate, after satisfying other claims, no action in respect to such residue seems advisable. The Committee, therefore, only recommend the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Board cherish a deep interest in the success of the Liberia College, and that it hopes the friends of the American Colonization Society will aid in securing the one hundred thousand dollars required in order to render the \$50,000 left by the will of the late Mr. Phelps available to the said college.

The Committee to nominate officers reported, recommending the following, viz:

Rev. R. R. GURLEY, for *Corresponding Secretary*.

Rev. WM. McLAIN, for *Financial Secretary and Treasurer*.

Rev. JOHN ORCUTT, for *Traveling Secretary*.

Dr. HARVEY LINDSLEY, JOSEPH H. BRADLEY, Esq., A. O. DAYTON, Esq., WM. GUNTON, Esq., W. W. SEATON, Esq., Rev. GEORGE W. SAMSON, and Judge WM. MERRICK, for members of the Executive Committee.

The Committee further recommended that no appointment of Recording Secretary be made at this meeting, but that the Executive Committee be authorized to employ some suitable person to perform the duties of bookkeeper for the ensuing year, at a salary not exceeding one thousand dollars.

The report was adopted, and the officers nominated elected.

The Committee on Auxiliary Societies being called upon, presented no report.

The Corresponding Secretary read a resolution which he had prepared, in regard to planting an interior settlement on the New Jersey Tract, whereupon,

The Rev. Dr. Pinney offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the New Jersey Colonization Society be informed that it is the purpose of this Board, if the Government of Liberia consent, to plant a settlement on the New Jersey Tract, and that the Executive Committee be authorized to adopt preliminary measures for this purpose immediately.

Resolved, That in order to secure the settlement of twenty pioneer families on the New Jersey purchase, the State Society of New Jersey be invited to appropriate five thousand dollars for opening roads, building houses, and other needful expenses in forming the settlement.

Resolved, That respectable families who contemplate emigrating from Illinois, as stated by the Rev. Robert S. Finley, be invited, if the settlement can be made, to become pioneers, with the pledge that each family shall have a small house and farm of land given them.

Resolved, That houses shall be prepared for as many respectable families, not less than twenty, as will pledge themselves by the first of May, to emigrate in the expedition of November next.

On motion of Rev. J. Tracy, it was—

Resolved, That henceforth the financial year shall close with the calendar year, or last day of December, annually.

The Committee on Agencies reported verbally, that no materials for a report had been placed in their hands. The report was accepted.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Gurley, it was—

Resolved, That the several State Societies be invited to consider by what means, and to what definite extent, they may, during this year, contribute to the funds of this Society, and to communicate the result of their deliberations to the Executive Committee, and also that they be desired to consider whether they can, with prospects of success, apply to their respective State Legislatures for aid to the cause of African Colonization.

On motion of Rev. P. Slaughter, it was—

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to contribute a sum not exceeding \$600, to the salary of an agent, for the special purpose of procuring free colored emigrants in Virginia, and getting them ready for embarkation.

The Rev. Dr. Pinney, from the Committee to whom was referred the resolution relative to the packet-ship *M. C. Stevens*, made the following report:

That with the vessel and its management for the past year, the Society has reason to be gratified. We doubt not that had the generous donor, the late Mr. John Stevens, of Talbot county, Maryland, to whose liberality we are indebted for it, survived to meet with us, his highest anticipations would have been satisfied. In speed, comfort, and safety, the Stevens has proved herself eminently superior for the desired service. The Committee have read with pleasure the lucid and full report of Dr. James Hall, as to the results of the two first voyages of the packet, showing that, under very unfavorable circumstances for securing general freight, allowing a fair credit for passage of emigrants on terms as low as could have been obtained by charter of even inferior vessels, there is left a balance to her credit in round numbers of \$6,000. The total outlay for two voyages, \$15,836 63, and her earnings, \$21,969 38. In thus uniting a fair income over expenses, with the very superior comfort and security of passengers on the voyage, the packet vindicates the wisdom of those by whose exertions and beneficence she was secured.

On the subject of compensation of the agent to whom the care and business of the packet has been confided, the Committee have deemed it just and proper to allow for the year past, \$1,000, in accordance with Dr. Hall's liberal proposition, and at the same time state, that this sum is not, in our opinion, an equivalent for the various correspondence and multifarious duties performed.

They recommend that the agency of Dr. Hall be continued, and that, as a matter of economy and gain to the Society, he be compensated as proposed in his own report, by privilege of free of charge one thousand barrels of freight, if the vessel can receive it. Or should the Society's business be so large as to forbid this privilege entirely, or in part, then to the same extent in proportion, the compensation be made at the rate of \$1,000 per annum.

On the topic of insurance, the Committee feel some doubt in assuming the responsibility of recommending a change. By an almost unanimous decision at the last meeting of the Directors, full insurance was insisted upon. In view of the excellent qualities of the Stevens, of the peculiarly favorable season of the year, when her voyages are commenced, of the safety of the Liberman coast in general from dangers to the crew or vessel, and from the difficulty of obtaining a general average for partial loss on so large a sum as \$40,000, the Committee will venture to propose a change, as follows: That insurance be obtained on one-half her value, say \$20,000, and that, for the other half, the Society become her underwriter, and the sum so saved be invested as a sinking fund for renewal when the vessel is lost or worn out. On the only remaining topic embraced in the resolution referred to them, the Committee would suggest that the accounts of the Stevens should in the account of the Treasurer, and in our ledger, embrace her whole earnings and expenditures, and would further suggest, that an account be opened with her in the books on this basis, and be continued so, at all times, to show the entire credits and debits of her business; that in all cases, including the Treasurer's Report for the past year, the earnings of the packet for emigrants and Society's freight be credited, and she be debited to emigrant or some other appropriate account.

J. B. PINNEY, *Chairman*.

J. P. JACKSON.

On motion the Annual Report was referred to the Executive Committee for publication. The minutes were read and approved. The Board then adjourned to meet on third Tuesday of January, 1859, at 12 o'clock, at noon.

ELISHA WHITTLSEY, *Chairman*.

JOSEPH TRACY, *Secretary*.

JOHN ORCUTT, *Assistant Secretary*.

A Handsome Donation.

WE learn, says the *National Intelligencer*, that the Hon. Alex. Anderson, of New Albany, Indiana, has presented to the American Colonization Society, ten thousand acres of land, lying in the State of Georgia. The deed for the same was received at the Colonization Rooms a few

days since. The land lies in an improving part of the State, and is supposed to be very valuable. Mr. Anderson is entitled to and will receive the thanks of all the friends of Liberia for this generous donation.

Latest from Liberia.

VERY gratifying intelligence has been received at the office of the Society from Liberia, bearing dates to the 19th of December, 1857. President Benson, in his letter dated Monrovia, December 12, 1857, observes:—"Sir, our good friends in the United States must learn not to place one-fiftieth part of the stress they do upon letters received from persons in Liberia who were never designed by Divine Providence to be of much service in the world. Some men are constitutionally unfit to either endure or accomplish much in this life; they are mere cyphers, possessed of no manly fortitude and patient perseverance. If the pioneers to this country had been thus constituted, their career would have been chimerical. If it were in my

power, I would not reverse any of the incidents, through which we passed during three or four months of this year. Every intelligent man sees good growing out of them. Of this I was aware during the most gloomy times, and thanked God for them.

Domestic provisions—breadstuffs especially—were never more plentiful, far exceeding the demand. Good potatoes cannot realize twenty-five cents a bushel in the farming districts. And all proper seeing and feeling men in Liberia hesitate not to confess that the Republic was never in a better condition (in reality) than it is now, notwithstanding the scarcity of money, which, however, is not restricted to Liberia."

Receipts of the American Colonization Society;

From the 20th of December, 1857, to the 20th of January, 1858.

MAINE.		
Colonization Society of the State of Maine, by Freeman Clark, treasurer, of which \$30 is from the Church of South Berwick, to constitute Rev. Alfred Emerson a life-member.....	74 00	
NEW HAMPSHIRE.		
Salmon Falls—Mr. Hout, \$1.		
Great Falls—J. R. Burleigh, \$1.		
Exeter—Mrs. D. Gilman, Mrs. Capt. Long, G. L. Soule, each \$2, Rev. Mrs. Hurd, \$1, by Capt. G. Barker.....	9 00	
MASSACHUSETTS.		
Lowell—L. Keese, Esq., to constitute the Rev. Amos Blanchard, D. D., a life-member..	30 00	
Hubbardstown—Hannah Bennett,	5 00	
Otis—Collected by Rufus Pomeroy, Esq.....	15 00	
		50 00
NEW YORK.		
Waterford—J. Knickerbacker, Esq.	500 00	
NEW JERSEY.		
New Jersey Colonization Society,	360 00	
Bridgeton—Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer.....	50 00	
		410 00
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.		
Washington—John P. Ingle, Esq. annual donation.....	10 00	
Interest on investments.....	483 50	
		493 50

VIRGINIA.		
<i>Kanawha</i> —The Misses Summers, annual donation.....	50 00	
GEORGIA.		
<i>Augusta</i> —R. Campbell, Esq., \$20; Miss H. B. Longstreet, \$10..	30 00	
MISSISSIPPI.		
"Buena Vista," (near Rodney)—C. B. New, to constitute Mrs. Margaret and Miss Eliza K. New, life-members.....	60 00	
<i>Rodney</i> —David Hunt, Esq.....	500 00	
TENNESSEE.		560 00
<i>Blountsville</i> —Sam'l Rhea, annual donation.....	10 00	
OHIO.		
By Rev. B. O. Plimpton:		
<i>Clide</i> —Mary S. Hackley.....	5 00	
<i>Cook's Corners</i> —Isaac Dewitt, \$5; Several persons, \$5.30.....	10 30	
<i>Elkton</i> —J. McMillan, John Hawkins, Thomas Hawkins, each \$10; Edward Pettit and H. Hopkins, each \$5.....	40 00	
INDIANA.		55 30
<i>New Albany</i> —Hon. Alex. Anderson, 10,000 acres of land lying in Georgia.		
MICHIGAN.		
By Rev. B. O. Plimpton:		
<i>Paw Paw</i> , 75 cents; <i>Kalamazoo</i> , Mr. Walkes, \$5; <i>Battle Creek</i> , Republic C. Lumpkin, \$10; Wood Co. col. Meth. Church, \$25; <i>Toledo</i> , F. H. Brown, Mrs. Mary S. Hunt, Mrs. J. A. Hopkins, and E. Woolsey, each \$10; Hon. Horace Thacker, \$5; <i>Canton</i> , J. Alexander, \$5; <i>Hillsdale</i> , John P. Cook, \$5; <i>Cold Water</i> , Public collection \$3; <i>Jonesville</i> , H. J. Baxter, \$5; <i>Ossed</i> , S. Green, \$1; <i>Quincy</i> , Mrs. C. Wood, \$1; <i>White Pigeon</i> , J. W. Bloys, \$1; <i>Goshen</i> , Mary Norton, \$2.50; <i>Three Runs</i> , L. Fish and A. Burch, each \$1; Jas. E. Kelsey, \$5; <i>Mantua</i> , Sylvester Reed, \$1, Sarah Bump, \$3.50, Philip Bump, \$3; <i>Pontiac</i> , Mrs. Z. North, \$10; <i>Monroe City</i> , S. M. Sackett and E. G. Morton, each \$10; Mrs. H. C. Judson, \$5, Mrs. Strong, \$2.	169 90	
NEBRASKA TER.		
<i>Omaha City</i> —John Harris.....	5 00	
FOR REPOSITORY.		
MAINE. — <i>Bangor</i> —Jos. Bryant, to Sept. '58, \$1; Roger S.		
Howard, to May, 1860, \$2; E. F. Duren, for 1858, \$1; Amos Jones, in full, \$1 <i>Bruce</i> —J. Skinner, to Sept. 1858 \$1; J. Chamberlain, to Nov. 1858, \$1. By Capt. Geo. Barker.....	7 00	
NEW HAMPSHIRE. — <i>Francesstown</i> —L. K. Brown, for 1858, \$1. <i>Salmon Falls</i> —B. A. Watsen, to May, 1858, \$1. <i>Great Falls</i> —D. H. Buffane, to May, '58, \$1. <i>Exeter</i> —Mrs. Mary Abbott, to Dec., '59, \$2.—By Capt. Geo. Barker.....	5 00	
VERMONT. — <i>Burlington</i> —Job Lyman, for 1858, \$1. <i>Woodstock</i> —L. A. Marsh, for 1858, \$1. <i>Bellows' Falls</i> —Estate of Nathaniel Tucker, in full, \$2....	4 00	
MASSACHUSETTS. — <i>Dana</i> —N. L. Johnson, for 1857 and '58, \$2. <i>Otis</i> —Mrs. Anna Woolcott, for 1858, \$1.....	3 00	
CONNECTICUT. — <i>Meriden</i> —Hon. W. Booth, for 1858, \$1. <i>Danbury</i> —Miss E. M. Phillips, & Miss S. A. Boirey, each \$1, for 1859. <i>Center Brook</i> —Wm. Redfield, for 1857 and '58, \$2.	5 00	
NEW YORK. — <i>Norwich</i> —D. Buttolph, for 1858.....	1 00	
NEW JERSEY. — <i>Paterson</i> —John Colt, for 1858, \$1. <i>Baskingridge</i> —John C. Rankin, for 1858, \$1.....	2 00	
PENNSYLVANIA. — <i>Waynesboro</i> —J. W. Campbell, for 1858, \$1. <i>Troy</i> —Amos Crippen, in full, \$1.	2 00	
MARYLAND. — <i>Baltimore</i> —Henry Patterson, for 1858.....	1 00	
GEORGIA. — <i>Macon</i> —Edwin Graves, in full.....	5 00	
OHIO. — <i>Albany</i> —Newton Harris, for 1858, \$1. <i>Cincinnati</i> —Manning Force, for 1858, \$1. <i>Columbus</i> —M. Gooding, in full, \$7; P. B. Doddridge, for 1858, \$1. <i>Northfield</i> —Rev. William Campbell, and John Wilson, each \$1, in full.....	12 00	
KENTUCKY. — <i>Henderson</i> —Isaac Sheffer, for 1858, \$1. <i>Elkton</i> —Wm. D. Ckerson, for '58, \$1.	2 00	
TENNESSEE. — <i>Union</i> —David Walker, in full.....	1 00	
MISSOURI. — <i>Lancaster</i> —Rev. Titus Shropshire, for 1857.....	1 00	
Total Repository.....	51 00	
Total Contributions.....	1,933 20	
Interest.....	483 50	
Aggregate Amount.....		\$2,467 70

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Delegates appointed by State Auxiliary Societies for 1858.

MAINE.—Hon. Robert P. Dunlap.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Rev. Joseph Tracy.

CONNECTICUT.—Hon. L. F. S. Foster, Hon. Samuel Ingham, Hon. Samuel Arnold, 2d, Hon. W. D. Bishop, Eli Whitney, Esq., George W. Shelton, Esq., Rev. John Orcutt.

NEW YORK.—Hon. Erastus Brooks, A. G. Phelps, Esq., Smith Bloomfield, Esq., Rev. Henry Connelly.


NEW JERSEY.—John P. Jackson, Esq.

OHIO.—Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, Hon. J. W. Allen, Rev. John Seys.

VIRGINIA.—Rev. P. Slaughter, Rev. W. H. Starr, Rev. J. B. Taylor, Rev. T. J. Bowen, Rev. J. C. Granberry.

Next Expedition.

Our Ship, the **MARY CAROLINE STEVENS**, will sail from Baltimore and Norfolk the 1st of May next. Application for freight or cabin passage should be made to Dr. James Hall, Colonization Office, Baltimore; for steerage passage, immediately *to this office*. The Ship will touch at all the ports in Liberia. Fare: Cabin \$100; Steerage \$35. Freight, \$1.50 a barrel, 30 cents a cubic foot, \$10 a ton. Palm oil, 5 cents a gallon on the entire capacity of the casks. No single package will be taken for less than \$1. All freight will be received and delivered alongside the ship, or landed at the risk and expense of the shipper or consignee. Passage and freight to be paid in advance. Five per cent. primage will be charged on all freight which is not paid in advance.

 All persons sending parcels and packages by Express or otherwise to Baltimore, to be forwarded in the ship, must pay the expenses on the same, including drayage to the ship, in Baltimore. No freight will be received at Norfolk.—The ship will only touch there for emigrants and their baggage and other belongings.

All letters sent to the care of this office will be duly forwarded in the ship.

Papers friendly will please copy.

Address of Agents.

REV. B. O. PLIMPTON, *Madison, Ohio*; JOHN C. STOCKTON, *Mount Vernon, Ohio*; REV. A. D. EDDY, D. D., *Chicago, Ills.*; REV. L. D. BALDWIN, *Nashville, Tenn.*; REV. E. G. NICHOLSON, *Hamilton, Ohio*; CAPT. G. BARKER, *Bangor, Me*; REV. J. N. DANFORTH, D. D., *Alexandria, Va.*

Terms of the Repository.

The African Repository is issued regularly on the 1st of every month, at \$1 per annum, *payable in advance*.

The Repository will be sent gratuitously—

To every clergyman who takes up annually a collection to aid the Am. Col. Society.

To every person who contributes annually ten dollars, or more, to the Society.

To every life member of the Society;—constituted by the payment of thirty dollars.

To every person obtaining three new subscribers, and remitting the money.

Subscribers who may not be visited by any of our regular agents, will please remit to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, the amount of their subscription, in any kind of funds which may be most convenient to them; which will be acknowledged by mail, free of postage, and also in the succeeding number of the Repository.

Form of Request to the A. C. S.

Those who wish to make bequests to the American Colonization Society, can best secure their object by using the following form, viz: "I give and bequeath the sum of _____dollars to A. B., *in trust* for the American Colonization Society," &c.

